

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 24. Claims 1-4 and 24 are amended herein. Claims 5-23 remain withdrawn. No new matter is presented.

Thus, claims 1-4 and 24 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claim 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,883,678 (Yamaguchi).

Yamaguchi is directed to encoding a video picture positioned on an object region position by checking whether a current picture is located on an object region or a background region in accordance with an alpha-map signal. For example, as shown in Fig. 29B, when a region occupied by an object is small, the amount of codes is reduced by encoding an alpha-map signal of the small region containing the object and not an alpha-map signal of the whole frame (see, col. 23, lines 1-14). That is, the Yamaguchi is limited to encoding video information representing a shape and a position of an object in a frame.

In contrast to Yamaguchi, the claimed method of controlling moving image data recited in claim 24 enables designation of "an arbitrary portion" among portions forming the moving image data based on or subject to discretion for controlling "the moving image data in entirety." Claim 24 further recites that designation of an arbitrary portion includes "a user input" and the moving image data is controlled by "integrating the compressed moving image data and the compressed control information."

Yamaguchi is limited to encoding video information representing a shape and a position of an object in a frame and does not teach or suggest "an arbitrary portion" designated includes "a user input", as recited in claim 24.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi and U.S. Patent No. 5,818,970 (Ishikawa).

Ishikawa determines whether a high frequency component of image data exists based on a frequency distribution of densities corresponding to a plurality of pixels in a block and

eliminating the high frequency component of the image from the image (see, col. 6, lines 3-10 and col. 20, lines 10-25). As such, Ishikawa is directed to extracting the high frequency component of an image.

The Examiner acknowledges that Ishikawa does not specifically disclose that the information input unit designates a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data, but relies on Yamaguchi as teaching the same. However, as mentioned above, Yamaguchi is limited to encoding video information representing a shape and a position of an object in a frame.

Independent claim 1 recites "inputting control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the moving image data inputted through said moving image source input unit", where the inputted control information includes "a user input." Independent claim 2 recites similar features.

Independent claims 3 and 4 recite, "inputting control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the inputted moving image data" and "inputting control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the inputted moving image data", respectively. Claims 3 and 4 further recite that inputting the control information includes "a user input."

Yamaguchi and Ishikawa, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest enabling input of "control information externally-produced" ("area information" in claim 2) and "arbitrarily designated partial image data" including "a user input" as recited in each of the independent claims 1-4.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

Accordingly, claims 1-4 and 24 are amended and claims 5-23 remain withdrawn. Thus, claims 1-4 and 24 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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